

First American Bible sells for \$330,000



NEW YORK, N.Y. (EP) — The first Bible printed in America was sold at auction Feb. 21 for \$330,000, a new record for the sale of an American Bible.

The 1661 Bible was sold by Christie's galleries to New York dealer Glenn Orowitz. Christie's experts had given the Bible a pre-sale price evaluation of \$250,000 to \$330,000.

The Bible is a translation in the Algonquin dialect, made by John Eliot, who was known as the "Apostle to the Indians." He translated the Bible for Indians living in Natick, Massachusetts.

The previous record for an American Bible was \$220,000 for a second edition of an Eliot Bible, was set in 1986. The Bible just sold was consigned by the estate of Estelle Doheny, a Los Angeles collector. It is bound in ornately-tooled English black Morocco leather, and is considered the finest copy of that edition, of which 20 are known to be still in existence.

A morning prayer

Lord, it's so good to rise early in the morning and feel the freshness of a new day: to read your Word and pray.

Thank you for the rooster that crows, the wind that blows, the sun peeking up in the eastern sky.

For the stars that shine against the moon furling in the west: for the gently floating clouds promising drink for earth's thirstiness.

For every tree pointing toward you and the grassy sod beneath my feet aglow with morning dew.

For the sense of your presence, power and love: freely given to open hearts willing to receive.

For your grace in this new day, through trial and despair; through "sickness, health, poverty, and wealth;" for the guidance of your hand; the strength of your care.

Lord, this is your day: your day and mine, to live and love and walk together.

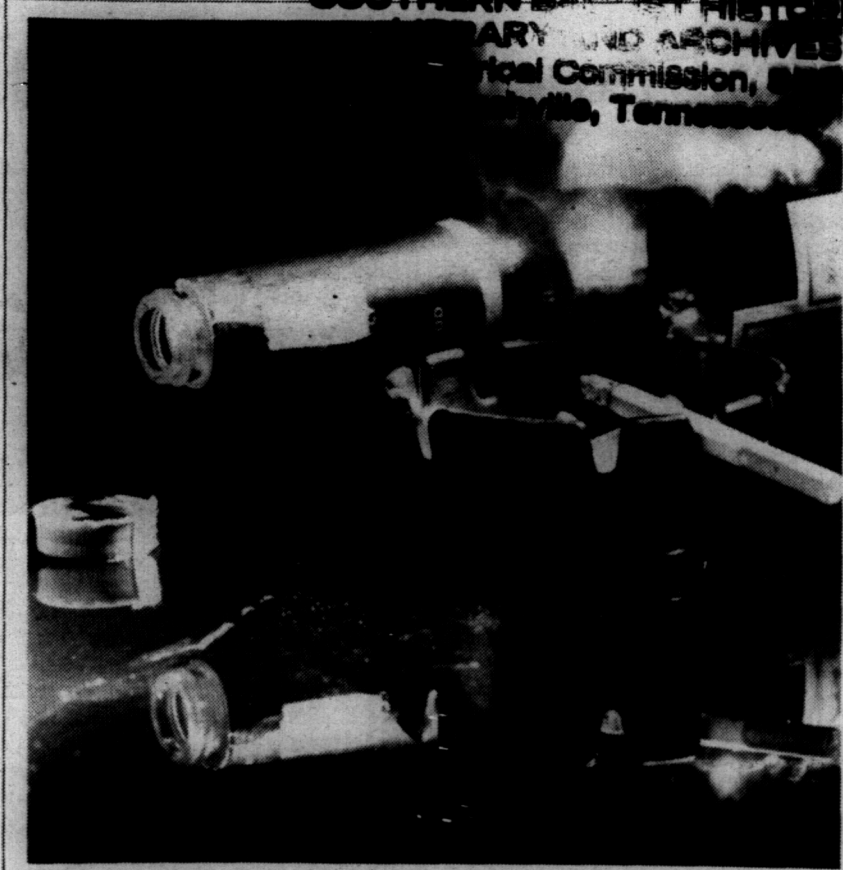
I reach out to you in faith, believing your Word, trusting your grace: come what may, you're mine and I'm yours — forever!

—Floyd F. Higginbotham
Bogue Chitto

'Am I my brother's keeper?'

(Gen. 4:9)

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Observe Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Sunday
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The Baptist Record

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With Good News, and trees, they'll have a tomorrow

By Larry Cox

While most pastors in Mississippi are busy teaching their church members using such phrases as "planting seeds," and "cultivating," or "reaping the harvest," Henri Ye' teaches his church members and others to "plant trees."

A Baptist pastor from Burkina Faso, West Africa, Ye' has been studying for a Ph.D. in forestry for the past three years at Duke University. When he returns to his native country in May, he will resume his position as a professor of forestry at the only university in this land-locked, sub-Saharan country. Ye' will also be available to resume a leadership position at one of the six churches in the capital city of Ouagadougou or perhaps be used to start a new church.

Ye' recently spent a week as a guest of Mississippi College lecturing on African culture and development, speaking in chapel and to the BSU and preaching at Broadmoor, Jackson, Wildwood, Clinton, and Pine Bluff, Hazlehurst. During his Mississippi visit several people asked Ye' why he wanted to return to Burkina Faso since his family was with him, and he could conduct his research for his dissertation here in the USA. His response was always the same: "to help my people. Less than 10 percent of the people in my country are Christians. They adhere to traditional tribal religions which teach the adoration of ancestors and idols.

"Our people are open to the Gospel, but my work as a forester will help me to get their attention. In Ouagadougou before I came to Duke 20 percent of the salary of the average worker went to buying firewood to fuel cooking fires," Ye' said, "and women and children in the villages walk miles to gather firewood."

Deforestation has increased in re-

cent years as the people of Burkina Faso continue to clear land for crops, as the nutrient-poor land suffers from over grazing and as the search for firewood for a growing population continues.

With assistance from his advisors at Duke University, Ye' wrote a proposal for a reforestation project and received funding from the Rockefeller Foundation. On his return to Burkina Faso, Ye' will begin planting two species of fast-growing trees that he hopes will survive the eight-to-nine month dry season.

"The trees have qualities that we need for reforestation. They are easy to propagate, their leaves are palatable to livestock, and they are among the few plants that can fix nitrogen, a primary nutrient for all plants," added Ye'.

Ye' believes that one cannot separate physical and spiritual needs. Speaking to the annual meeting of Agricultural Missions Foundation at Immanuel Baptist Church in Greenwood, Ye' said, "Our people suffer from the lack of proper foods and from diseases related to dirty drinking water. If you start to preach to them without showing them you are interested in their hunger and thirst, then they won't listen to you."

"They want to know if you can give them tomorrow," Ye' explains. Armed with the Good News of Christ and two miracle trees, Ye' will soon be talking about planting trees and planting lives so that his people will have a tomorrow.

Cox is assistant to the president, Mississippi College.

Ancient jug is discovered buried since time of Christ

JERUSALEM, Israel (EP) — Israeli archaeologists, with the help of volunteers from the Institute of Judaic-Christian Research in Arlington, Texas, have discovered that a jug of oil unearthed last summer once contained perfume that dates back to the time of Christ.

The jug was found in a cave in Qumran near the Dead Sea — the site where the Dead Sea scrolls were discovered. Wrapped in palm leaves and buried under three feet of earth inside the cave, the oil inside the jug was still fluid and had maintained its original chemical composition, although its fragrance had disappeared.

Months of chemical analysis revealed that the oil was extracted from the ancient persimmon plant, which no longer exists today.

An ancient bronze scroll discovered in the same caves 36 years ago mentioned 60 items taken from the Jewish Temple between A.D. 66 and 68 and hidden from the Roman army as it approached Jerusalem. Among the items listed were 23 talents of oil. No exact modern equivalent is known for the talent, mentioned in the Bible in numerous passages, and the discovery of the jug will help biblical scholars determine what a talent's measurement is.



Henri Ye', Baptist pastor from Burkina Faso, answers questions from Holly Redford of Prentiss and Todd Watson, assistant BSU director at MC.

Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

Could somebody sing my song?

We are almost half way through a six-year cycle of Bold New Growth Mississippi. That is of concern in itself; but there is another thought that, while it shares the concern about the total concept, has a more selfish interest in the emphasis. You see, I woke up one day and found that I had written a song for Bold New Growth Mississippi. The problem is that we are nearly half way through, and I haven't heard anybody singing my song yet.

The same is almost true for the four other composers (how did I get into that classification?) whose music is found in a special music packet to go along with Bold New Growth Mississippi. The book is to be had free of charge from the Church Music Department.

The Baptist Record is represented by two songs. Irene Martin wrote the other one, but she has heard hers. The Mississippi Singing Churchmen sang

it during the Mississippi Baptist Convention in 1987. Hers is called "Rise Up, Reach Out." Mine is titled, "Witness (Empowered by His Spirit)." The other three composers are Lew King, minister of music at Parkway Church, Jackson; Kenny Adams, minister of music at First Church, Bruce; and Jeanette Keyser, organist at First Church, Calhoun City. King wrote one titled "We Must Grow." Adams wrote two: "Boldly Go" and "Reaching Out in Love." Jeanette Keyser's two are "Going Forth in the Name of Jesus" and "There's a Wonderful Story."

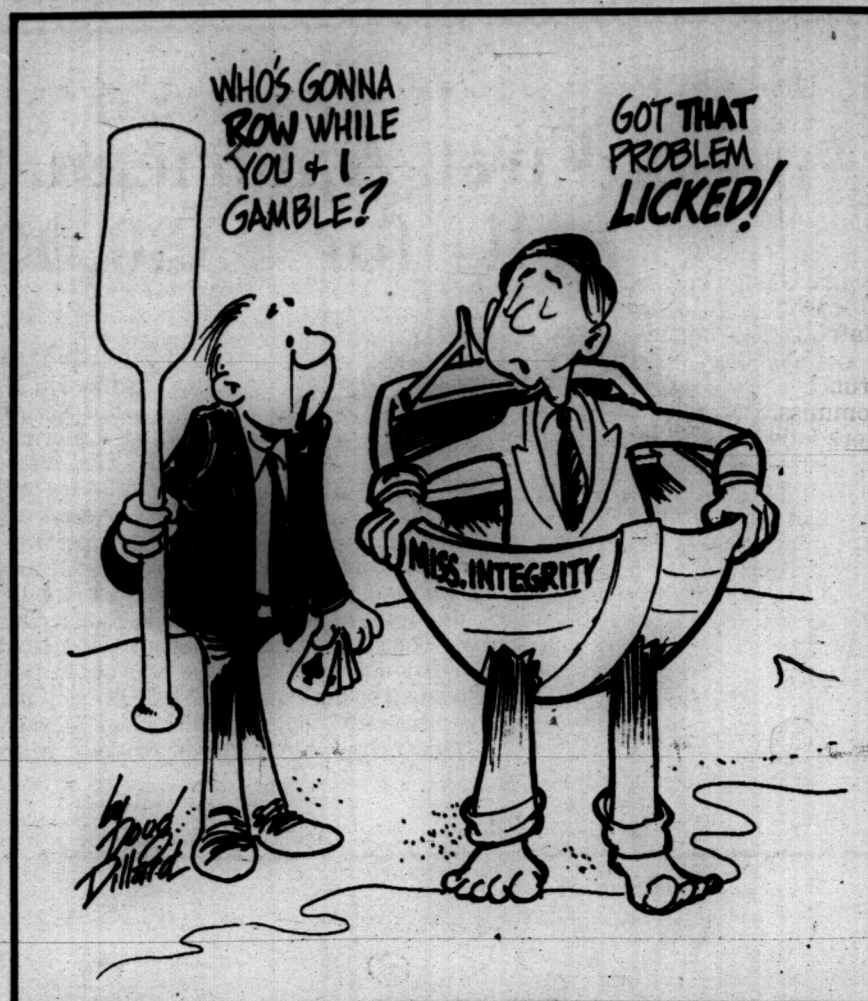
Of course, the use of those songs does not guarantee revival, nor does it mean that Bold New Growth Mississippi will be successful. It would be nice to hear them sung, however; so maybe those churches that have not taken up the Bold New Growth Mississippi emphasis could get it under way.

By the way, Bold New Growth Mississippi is the Mississippi arm of Bold Mission Thrust, the Southern Baptist Convention effort to provide a Christian witness to everyone in the world by the end of this century. Specifically, it seeks to encourage and help to implement the beginning of new units within the churches. These new units might be in any area of church life, for all of the program departments in the framework of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board are involved in Bold New Growth Mississippi.

If your church has not been involved in the action, it is not too late. The word is that there has been no deadline set on establishing these new units.

So, get out there and get to establishing new units. That is the way to grow.

Besides, I want to hear somebody singing my song.



Guest opinion . . .

The first in Brazil

By Cecil Roberson

It has been asserted for many years, and recently so again, that Rev. W. B. Bagby and his wife were Southern Baptists' first missionaries to Brazil. In fairness to the truth and for the sake of historical integrity of our people, I must protest against this error. The Bagbys had brilliant careers in Brazil. They deserve our love, honor, and appreciation for having laid the groundwork and also for building much of the structure of the Baptist fellowship upon it.

But Southern Baptists' first missionaries to Brazil were Rev. and Mrs. Thomas Jefferson Bowen of Georgia.

I have done more than 30 years of exhaustive study and research on the history of Baptists in Nigeria. I learned that Rev. Bowen was the first Southern Baptist missionary there. Therefore I gave more attention to him in getting the story of the earliest activities there. I made a large collection of his papers, entitling them simply *The Bowen Papers*. Then, basing my writing largely on the information in these papers, along with that from other sources, I wrote a biography of Bowen. These may be seen in the Jenkins Memorial Library, Foreign Mission Board headquarters, in Richmond.

On March 29, 1860, the Bowens sailed for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Their mandate from the board: to establish a mission in Brazil. On February 7, 1861, they sailed from Rio to return to America. The less than 11 months spent there consisted of several sad events, including Bowen's loss of both physical and mental health. There was much resistance from Brazilian authorities to their work, and for a

short time Bowen was in jail.

Little visible accomplishment memorialized their labors. They did not return to that field. So it might seem that any reason for mentioning them as our first missionaries to Brazil — an hour reserved for only those of a superb breed — is negligible. They are so over-shadowed by the better known and greatly beloved Bagbys.

But is this the manner by which we evaluate the careers of our overseas missionaries? Are we to consider their work worthless because it was short-lived?

Through suffering and sacrifice, Thomas and Lurana (Davis) Bowen had pioneered the Nigerian field. They laid the groundwork for the mission there that has grown into a large, influential Baptist stronghold. He wrote a grammar and dictionary of the Yoruba (native) language, thus constructing the foundation for a native intelligentsia rooted in its own culture — "contextualized," if you please.

Interestingly, Bowen's objective for desiring to reach Brazil was not primarily to convert the Brazilians. In Nigeria he had conceived the plan of establishing a secondary school in which would be provided instruction in academic, theological, and vocational subjects. He dreamed of a time to come when this school would promote the growth of a middle-class of converted, educated people who would be able to perpetuate the Christian religion against all who would oppose it. Improved arts and crafts; Christian churches, homes, and schools; and an enlightened society would form an unassailable fortress

against them. Thus Christ would defeat the Muslim jihad in Nigeria, a force for which Bowen had a healthy regard.

Reaching Brazil, Bowen found many slaves whose native home had been the Yoruba country of Nigeria. As he had opportunity, on the streets of the city, in the warehouses by the harbor, and in their homes, Bowen conversed with them and attempted to interest them in the gospel. They were so delighted to meet someone who had so recently been in Yoruba country; and especially as he could speak their native language, they were overjoyed. They danced, sang native songs, beat their native drums, and made loud meriment generally.

This alarmed the owners of the slaves and government authorities, who remonstrated with the missionary, threatening him with legal action if he didn't desist. This Bowen found difficult to do.

Enjoying what Bowen told them of news in Yoruba, the slaves pressed him for more and more information, about their towns, the course of the inter-tribal war, their families where he had visited, and just any scrap of news that he could supply. This is the reason that, in a last effort to neutralize Bowen's influence among the slaves, the authorities imprisoned him. He was released because of the interceding of the United States government.

Say what we may in honor of the greatly deserving Bagbys, but let us not pervert the history of missions in Brazil by making them our first missionaries in the country.

Baptist missionary to Nigeria from Mississippi.

Welcome, Doug Dillard

Readers will find the work of a new cartoonist in this week's issue. He is Doug Dillard, a resident of Dallas. Last year Dillard observed his 20th anniversary as cartoonist for the Baptist Standard, the Texas state paper. It was this editor who helped him get started with the Standard when the editor was associate editor at the Standard.

At the same time, the Baptist Standard observed its 100th anniversary.

All of the originals of Dillard's cartoons that have run in the Standard have been placed in the archives of Southwestern Seminary for study. They detail the history of Southern Baptists and Texas Baptists.

Also about 20 years ago, Dillard began to provide cartoons for the Baptist Program, the monthly publication of the SBC Executive Committee, again at the suggestion of this editor. That cartoon character was "Bro. Blotz."

The cartoons by Dillard that will appear in the Baptist Record will be tailored for our publication. We hope that readers will enjoy them.

This week's cartoon refers to last week's editorial, which was a commentary on the lightning speed by which the Legislature suspended its rules for procedure and enacted legislation enabling a cruise ship to allow gambling in Mississippi Sound, which is within the state. The governor has signed the bill. At the end of last week there were additional efforts to suspend the rules and allow smaller vessels to have gambling operations as well as provide for a vote on a state-run lottery.

Those issues didn't make it because the Legislature ran out of time. Not before, however, some members of the Legislature had thumbed their noses at Baptists in the state, according to the Jackson Clarion-Ledger. That paper reported:

"Mississippi, a Bible-belt state and the last teetotaling holdout of the Prohibition era, now allows a limited form of legalized casino gambling aboard cruise ships because of a legislative vote this year."

"Although it took the notable absence of about one in every five senators for the roll call vote, coast lawmakers were able to sail a gambling-based Pride of Mississippi right past conservative Baptist opposition and into the governor's office in less than a week."

Before he entered his cartoon ministry, Dillard was a highly successful minister of education at one of Dallas' major churches. We welcome an old friend and colleague to the pages of the Baptist Record.

Carey investigation

Two letters concerning the circumstances at William Carey have been published recently. There had been no statement to the contrary, so they were used. While we had no idea that they were in the offing, their use does suggest that others might feel disposed to write. Therefore, it needs to be noted that in view of the fact that the Education Commission is conducting an investigation of the William Carey situation, which was requested by the Carey trustees, there will be no further editorial statements, guest editorials, or letters published until after the commission has finished its work and made its report. If letters to the editor arrive that have postmarks that predate the issuance of this paper, they will be considered. If there are relevant news stories, of course, they will be used. — Editor

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RTVC cuts staff by 20% after ACTS sale fails

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission will reduce the size of its staff by 20 percent, effective March 31.

The cuts are the result of a budget crunch created when the sale of the commission's ACTS television network failed March 14, said officials of the RTVC here.

The RTVC will drop 12 full-time and six part-time employees through a combination of attrition and layoffs, RTVC officers said. The cutbacks will reduce the RTVC staff from 91 employees to 73.

Trustees voted to continue operating the RTVC's American Christian Television System after the sale of the cable TV network could not be completed. Friends of ACTS, a group based in San Antonio, Texas, had contracted to buy ACTS for \$34 million but could not raise the money by the mid-March deadline.

"Extraordinary expenses" related to the attempted sale of ACTS caused the budget problem, RTVC officers said.

Those expenses included legal fees paid to RTVC attorneys, fees paid to auditors to prepare for the sale, a \$435,000 exit penalty incurred when ACTS left the Spacenet satellite transponder and moved to the Galaxy III satellite requested by Friends of ACTS, and continued employment of people who would have been let go when the sale originally was to be completed last fall, said RTVC Executive Vice President Richard T. McCartney.

The 1988-89 budget had to be trimmed by nearly \$500,000. The payroll percentage of the \$500,000 savings "is not computed," McCartney said. Other cuts include postponement of the annual ACTS ceremony awards until the fall, after the start of the next fiscal year; elimination of "internal services" for RTVC departments, such as program promotion and gifts offered to program listeners; and delayed production of some RTVC programs until the next fiscal year, which begins Oct. 1.

State gifts: highest ever in March

Mississippi Baptist gifts through the Cooperative Program totaled \$1,835,518 in March, according to an announcement by Earl Kelly, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Total 1989 giving reached \$4,812,174, which is \$213,711 under budget requirements for the first quarter of the year. The amount given is 23.94 percent of the 1989 budget of \$20,103,541.

However, the amount given to date is \$111,463 more than that given in the first three months of 1988, a 2.37 percent increase.

Giving has increased each month of this year, following December's large gifts of \$1,945,254. January giving was \$1,381,445, and February's total was \$1,835,518.

March was the sixth highest month in Mississippi giving and the highest March ever.

A total of 37.5 percent of all gifts go to Southern Baptist causes outside the state.

Older candidates may apply for mission careers

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — More flexibility to consider older candidates for career missionary appointment will result from a revised statement of qualifications at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

The updated document removes all references to upper age limits for missionary service. Former guidelines said candidates for career appointment could be no older than 45.

The board still must consider certain factors in evaluating such candidates. These include fluency in the necessary foreign language or the ability to learn the language, and the time required for a particular candidate to become proficient in a given assignment.

Unlike the former guidelines, the new document makes no reference to American citizenship as a requirement for appointment.

As in the past, persons born or reared outside the United States generally will not be considered for positions in their countries of origin.

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Pastors to hear Bisagno, Gregory, Rogers, Stanley

LAS VEGAS, Nev. (BP) — "Facing Our Challenges with Confidence" will be the theme for the 1989 Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference here June 11-12.

The Pastors' Conference is one of several meetings that will precede the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, to be held June 13-15 in Las Vegas. Both the Pastors' Conference and the SBC meeting will be held in the Las Vegas Convention Center.

The Pastors' Conference theme speaks both to opportunity and need, said conference President Ralph M. Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Baptist Church in Austin, Texas.

"We're in a prime position — as the largest evangelical denomination in the United States, with a strong Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board, seminaries, and other agencies — to build churches and reach people for Christ during the final years of this century," Smith said.

"Formerly, we had to have a 'double conversion' — from semi-Christian teaching to Christian teaching. That's not true anymore. We now have an opportunity to convert people directly from paganism to faith in Christ."

The Pastors' Conference also has been planned to strengthen pastors, Smith said: "I want the Pastors' Conference to be upbeat, encouraging, and non-political."

The theme has been divided into four sub-themes, one for each of the conference's sessions.

"The Pastor's Motive" will be the topic for the opening session Sunday night, June 11. Speakers will be Johnny Jackson, vice president, Paul Jackson Evangelistic Association, Little Rock, Ark.; Howard Gates, pastor, First Church, Fort Walton Beach, Fla.; John C. Click, pastor, Immanuel Church, Topeka; and Charles Stanley, pastor, First Church, Atlanta.

Speakers at the Monday morning session will focus on "The Pastor's Ministry." Sermons will be delivered by Neal T. Jones, pastor, Columbia Church, Falls Church; Larry Lewis, president, Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; Darrell Gilyard, pastor, Shiloh Church, Garland, Texas; and John Bisagno, pastor, First Church, Houston.

Focus of the Monday afternoon session will be "The Pastor's Message." Messages will be presented by Gordon Graham, pastor, First Church, New Braunfels, Texas; Tom Elliff, pastor, First Southern Church, Del City, Okla.; Rick Warren, pastor, Saddleback Valley Community Church, Mission Viejo, Calif.; and Joel Gregory, pastor, Travis Avenue Church, Fort Worth.

The final session, Monday night, will examine "The Pastor's Mandate." Speakers will be James F. Eaves, pro-

fessor of evangelism, Southwestern Seminary; J. Harold Smith, evangelist and president, Radio Bible Hour, Newport, Tenn.; and Adrian Rogers, pastor, Bellevue Church, Memphis.

The speakers who will close each session — Bisagno, Gregory and former SBC presidents Rogers and Stanley — "are the people who were named most" by people who wrote Smith with suggestions for the conference and by people who responded to an informal survey he conducted. Lewis was chosen to give attention to the upcoming SBC "Here's Hope, America" simultaneous revival effort, Smith added.

Some recent Pastors' Conferences have been accused of taking sides in the 10-year political/theological dispute within the convention, but Smith said he has encouraged each speaker "to bring a message that is Bible-centered, positive, inspirational and non-political."

Help wanted

Two ministers of music are needed to donate their time and skill to teach 19 Bible students in Montemorelos, Mexico. Volunteers will leave Mississippi, Friday, May 19, and return on May 27. The cost is approximately \$175. The group will be working with native Calhoun Countian, Wayne Flemming, a Southern Baptist who works as an independent missionary there. He's been involved in developing seven churches in that area. For details, contact Jim Keyser, minister of music at First Church, Calhoun City, phone 628-6633.

Mississippi gifts to Lottie set new record

Mississippi Baptists, as of March 17, 1989, had given \$4,554,424.00 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions, announced Marjean Patterson at the annual meeting of Woman's Missionary Union on March 21 at Colonial Hills Church, Southaven. Miss Patterson, executive director, Mississippi WMU, said this is the largest amount ever given in the state to the Lottie Moon Offering.

MISSION 90 to challenge students for missions

By Frank Wm. White

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Backyard Bible clubs, street witnessing and work with inner-city missions are only a few of the missions opportunities Southern Baptist college and seminary students will have during MISSION 90, a national student missions conference to be held here Dec. 27-31.

Lifelong involvement in missions will be the focus of the conference to be held at the Fort Worth-Tarrant County Convention Center.

Other highlights of the conference include a commissioning service for Southern Baptist home and foreign missionaries, more than 80,000 square feet of exhibits related to Southern Baptist missions, choices from as many as 40 missions seminars during

each of the nine seminar times, and a concert by gospel recording artist Cynthia Clawson.

Featured speakers include R. Keith Parks, president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board; Larry Lewis, president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; Bill O'Brien, executive vice president of the Foreign Mission Board; Esther Burroughs, consultant for women at the Home Mission Board; Nathan Porter, consultant for hunger, disaster relief and migrant ministries at the Home Mission Board; and Dwight and Mary Nortstrom, Cooperative Services International volunteers in China. CSI is an arm of the Foreign Mission Board involving volunteers in

countries where missionaries are not allowed.

In addition to encouraging consideration of career missions, the conference will present ways students can be involved in bivocational and short-term missions and support Southern Baptist mission efforts.

By arriving a day early to attend special sessions, students may earn college or seminary credit. The seminaries are developing plans for the course credit option.

The "marketplace" exhibit area will feature a high-tech view of the world using video material from Cable News Network and other sources with a bank of 30 television monitors, said Art Herron, consultant for student ministries and chairman of the

marketplace subcommittee.

A personal life profile test will help students evaluate their abilities and how they can be involved in missions, Herron said.

Specific ministries will be demonstrated in the ministries exhibit area, with missionaries available to talk about their work. For students who want to discuss missions possibilities with a missionary, a counseling area will be centrally located in the exhibit area, Herron said.

Included in the range of seminar topics will be a series on world religions, sessions on various careers for Christian service overseas, mission trends and missions opportunities.

Students will spend seven hours during the conference in "family" groups of about 50 students, where they will participate in Bible studies and case studies on missions situations.

Information about students who make public decisions during the conference will be provided to local campus ministers and church pastors for follow-up.

Registration for the conference will be \$40. Registration forms are available from MISSION 90, P.O. Box 24001, Nashville, Tenn., 37203. Hotel registration is available for three downtown Fort Worth hotels at a reduced cost through the MISSION 90 registration office.



Richard D. Land, left, receives the seal for the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention from the Commission's trustee board chairman, Joe W. Aitchison, during ceremonies March 27 in Kansas City, Mo. Land, 42, was installed as the CLC's fifth executive director.

CLC's Land challenged to link faith, actions

By Louis Moore

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Richard D. Land was installed March 27 as the fifth executive director of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission amid challenges from the denomination's president and a Baptist theologian to link faith with actions, words with deeds, and example with leadership.

"Do not merely ascertain for us Bible truth; show us how to apply that truth to life," said convention president Jerry Vines during the installation service here. "Do not merely find Bible teachings; show us how to follow that Bible teaching in Bible living. Do not satisfy yourselves merely to state doctrine but stimulate duty."

Vines admonished Land to "always keep in mind that the ultimate purpose of it all is to share with men and women, boys and girls in our society the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, for the ultimate immortality is to have the saving gospel and fail to share it."

The installation ceremony was held in conjunction with the commission's annual seminar.

Theologian/author Carl F.H. Henry, founding editor of Christianity Today magazine, told the installation-service audience of about 425 an "appalling culture-crisis" swirls through the nation today, and Southern Baptists must respond by promoting "authentic and effective evangelical solutions."

"Around us today lives a multitude of seething and tormented minds (and) souls lashed by furious winds and waves of a drug culture and a society threatened by AIDS," Henry said. "They are disinherited spirits, cognitive wanderers, feeble characters whose dutiful selfhood has almost expired and whose agitated hearts seem steeled against the truth. Except for an eerie sense of ultimate catastrophe, a bewildering chaos chills their sense of future."

The "present generation refuses to admit that it is coping with demons; its teachers were unhelpful in confronting the ghastly terrors that stem from a paganism born of their rejection of Christianity," Henry said.

Land, who was elected to the CLC last September and took office Oct. 26, responded with a call for Southern Baptists to become "the salt of the earth and the light of the world."

"From this century's midpoint onward, our descent has gathered

momentum," Land said. "Present-day Christians are no longer confronted by a 'merely secular' culture. The downward spiral of sin outlined by Paul for the Roman Christians has materialized before our very eyes."

"The end result is that for the last half of this century Christianity has increasingly ceased to function in any meaningful way for our culture."

The Christian's answer to the degenerated society should be a heavier emphasis on biblical truths and lifestyle, he said.

"As we face our neo-pagan cultural milieu under the command to be salt and light, we must realize that an ability to do so successfully will first be governed not only by his (God's) presence in our lives but also by the extent we surrender on a daily basis to his lordship," Land said.

He cited three areas in modern society as particular examples of the many subjects needing attention from Christians: pornography, racism, and abortion.

"You ask any Christian psychologist, and he or she will tell you pornography's slimy clutches have reached inside our churches," he said.

"Pornography is a major contributing cause to the epidemic of child abuse and rape that affects us."

"Racism continues to plague our nation and our world. This should dismay us but should not surprise us. Racism is an enemy within as well as without."

"Racism and all other forms of prejudice and bigotry are at heart a problem of sinful pride and of thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought to think."

Abortion "is perhaps the supreme contemporary example of our need to be salt and light," Land said. "Since 1973, abortion — the taking of unborn life in the womb — has assumed staggering proportions in our society."

Christians, including the Christian Life Commission, "must force people to confront what they are doing," he said. "We must confront them with the horror of what they are doing. They must understand the implications of our knowledge of fetal development."

Land pledged to lead the commission to "help other changed people change the world."

Louis Moore writes for the Christian Life Commission.

Southeastern ratifies accrediting responses

By Marv Knox

WAKE FOREST, N.C. (BP) — Southeastern Seminary trustees have ratified their responses to the two agencies currently investigating the school's accreditation.

They twice voted 19-7 to "approve and adopt" the documents at the conclusion of their semi-annual meeting March 13-15 on campus here.

They also approved procedures for developing an "institutional response" to one of those accrediting agencies. And they changed procedures for selecting faculty, a move recommended by both agencies.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada are evaluating Southeastern Seminary following 17 months of controversy.

Southeastern is "a very troubled campus and divided institution," the initial ATS report states. "The provisions and principles internal to an academic institution have been severely threatened and in some instances abrogated."

The SACS report says Southeastern does not conform to some accreditation standards in matters of faculty selection, academic freedom, and organization and administration. It also raises "serious questions" about the effectiveness of the school.

The seminary trustees' instruction committee wrote draft responses to the agencies during the winter.

The 60-page SACS response says Lolley's failed leadership and the faculty's "public opinion campaign" precipitated the accreditation crisis.

Trustees, on the other hand, acted in accordance with SBC mandate and seminary bylaws when they made the policy changes that precipitated the turmoil, it adds.

The report also claims SACS treated the seminary unfairly — first in assuming trustees made belief in biblical inerrancy "a requirement for faculty eligibility" and second in reviewing events "in a light most favorable" to faculty, former administrators and some students.

James W. Bryant, a pastor from Fort Smith, Ark., and chairman of the trustee instruction committee, began the special session by noting: "We recognize this is a report that comes from a particular perspective. There will be those on the board who do not agree . . . There are not any known factual errors in this report. We did try to verify it."

Trustees decided to "approve and adopt" the documents "with the understanding that factual inaccuracies will be corrected." Most of those dealt either with Lolley or the investigation of Southeastern by a subcommittee of the SBC Peace Committee.

Among the references to Lolley, trustees dropped a sentence saying he resigned because of his "unwillingness to assume" the responsibility for implementing the school's new faculty-selection process. They also removed two sentences that said he threatened to complete his administration with the appointment of adjunctive faculty rather than submit candidates for permanent positions to votes by trustees. They deleted a charge that the conduct of the Peace Committee's subcommittee was "controlled by Dr. Lolley," and they cut a paragraph that expressed judgment about the propriety of that subcommittee's investigation.

They voted 9-15 not to remove "Exhibit P" — minutes from a 1987 closed-door meeting with Lolley — from the

documents.

Reflecting on the content of the documents, Charles W. Midkiff, a pastor from Greenville, Ky., said, "I do feel a great deal of responsibility has been put on Dr. Lolley, administrators, faculty and students, but I do not see a great deal of trustee ownership in our problem."

Noted Robert Shirley, a retired pastor from Tupelo, Miss., "This has been more of a defense than a suggestion that we are willing to do something about what is wrong."

Marv Knox writes for BP.

April 14 set as law day at MCSOL

Annual Law Day events April 14 at the Mississippi College School of Law will feature Mississippi Attorney General Mike Moore, new Supreme Court Justice Joel Blass, and internationally known defense attorney F. Lee Bailey.

Events begin with a 9 a.m. prayer breakfast sponsored by the Christian Legal Society. Moore is the speaker for the breakfast, which will be held in the Law School Annex at 151 East Griffith Street in Jackson. Tickets may be purchased for \$3; for advance reservations call at 944-1950.

The Law Review Student/Alumni Luncheon to be held at Denney's will feature Blass as guest speaker.

The annual Law Day Awards Ceremony will be held at 5:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Downtown and is open to the public.

Following the awards ceremony at 7 p.m. is the Annual Law Day Banquet with Bailey as guest speaker. Tickets for the banquet are \$14. All of the events are to be in Jackson.

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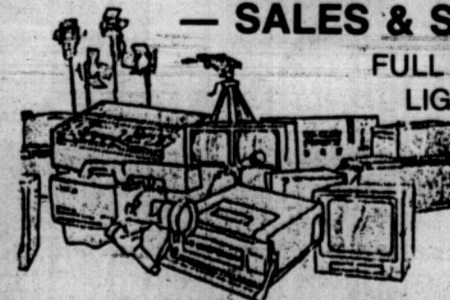
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HMB elects evangelism VP, announces gains, budget cuts

By Mark Wingfield

ATLANTA (BP) — A new vice president for evangelism, a record year for conversions and church starts, and a plan to reduce 1989 budget expenditures by nearly 10 percent highlighted the spring meeting of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

Darrell Robinson, pastor of Dauphin Way Church Mobile, unanimously was elected vice president for evangelism during the March 10 meeting. He succeeds Robert Hamblin, who left the board last December to become a full-time evangelist and direct a religious foundation in Mississippi.

After his election, Robinson told the board: "Only God can do what must be done to reach America for Christ. God cannot do that through me alone, but he can do that through Southern Baptists working together."

During his annual report to the board, Lewis announced year-end gains in baptisms, missionary appointments, church starts, and volunteerism. However, he warned that these records may not be repeated if funding for the board does not increase.

The board will operate on a contingency budget for the remainder of the 1988-89 fiscal year, Lewis said, because of reductions in Cooperative Program funding, less retained income available, and the small in-

crease in receipts from the 1988 Annie Armstrong offering.

"In spite of these actions, the cash flow and the financial position of the agency is healthy," he added.

Lewis also cited highlights of HMB accomplishments in 1988. They include:

— A record 75,943 people led in faith in Christ by home missionaries, chaplains and national staff personnel. "This conversion ratio of one to 13 is far better than the national SBC average of one to 43," Lewis noted.

— A new high in appointment of home missionaries and endorsement of chaplains. An increase of 81 missionaries, or 2.1 percent, pushed the total to a record 3,827 serving across the nation and assigned territories. A total of 2,014 chaplains now serve in the United States and 14 foreign countries.

— A net gain of 285 churches and 953 church-type missions, the largest gain since 1965, pushed the denomination closer to its goal of 50,000 churches and missions by A.D. 2000. The convention now has 42,217 churches and missions.

— A 17.9 percent increase in volunteers for mission service, with 8,597 new volunteers contributing to a record 49,781 individuals seeking short- and long-term assignments.

— A record 775 churches participated in lay renewal weekends and

lay ministry weekends, and more than 115,000 lay people were trained in personal evangelism.

— More than 50,000 individuals have completed training in a Prayer for Spiritual Awakening seminar, committing themselves to pray daily for revival.

In other action, the board of directors elected two additional staff members and appointed missionaries.

Floyd Tidsworth, church extension director for the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, was elected associate vice president of the extension section.

HMB national consultant Willie McPherson was elected associate director of the black church extension division, which also was created in the recent reorganization.

Elected new trustee chairman was Ralph Smith, pastor of Hyde Park Church, Austin, Tex. Outgoing chairman Clark Hutchinson, pastor of Eastside Church, Marietta, Ga., said, in his keynote address, that board members need to learn to say, "I don't agree with you, but I still love you."

He added, "We should hold dearly to our beliefs, but that does not give us the right to club others with our beliefs. We Southern Baptists have tried to make every church alike, and that won't work."

Mark Wingfield writes for the HMB.

Southwestern Seminary trustees approve budget, re-elect chairman

By Scott Collins

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Trustees of Southwestern Seminary approved a reduced 1989-90 budget and re-elected Ken Lilly, a physician from Fort Smith, Ark., as chairman of the board March 13-14.

The \$18.5 million budget passed by the trustees is a 1.2 percent cut, or \$226,410 from 1988-89. The new budget freezes salaries and cuts back some programs.

The budget was passed amid concern by the trustees over a reduction of Cooperative Program funds allocated by the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention. As a result, the board passed a resolution calling for the Executive Committee to reconsider its procedures for administering the unified budget funds of the denomination.

During his report to the trustees, President Russell Dilday said Southwestern's 2.8 percent cut in

Cooperative Program funds is a result of money being used for capital needs in other agencies and a no-increase budget adopted by the Executive Committee.

"We are grateful for the Cooperative Program and we must continue to promote that and motivate our churches to increase the amount of denominational support," Dilday said. "All of these efforts to hold money back or to get our way in the Convention by saying we're not going to give through the Cooperative Program are destructive. I oppose that kind of effort, no matter where it comes from. That's not the way to do the Lord's business."

Dilday emphasized the budget represents the school's commitment to a balanced budget with no debts.

In addition to Lilly, trustees elected Damon Shook, pastor of Champion Forest Church, Houston, as vice chair-

man, and re-elected John McNaughton, a layman from Fort Worth, as secretary.

Two new faculty members were elected unanimously. Marion (Bud) Fray, chairman of the religion department and director of the Center for Christian Ministries at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark., was elected professor of missions. Angela Cofer, assistant professor of voice at the University of Arizona in Tucson, was elected assistant professor of voice in the school of church music.

In other business, trustees approved a \$2 million phase of the Cowden Hall building project, which houses the school of church music. The approval allows administrators to proceed with design development and begin the bidding process.

Scott Collins writes for Southwestern Seminary.

Baptist Book Store offers phone service

The Baptist Book Store in Jackson is offering a new telephone service in 34 Mississippi Baptist Associations. The new service is called "remote Call Forwarding," and provides toll-free dialing to the Baptist Book Store in Jackson from those locations where those numbers are local calls.

The 19 numbers are located in major Southern Baptist areas of strength in the state. Said Book store manager, Charles McGlocklin, "South Central Bell said we could not service North-

west Mississippi, nor the Gulf Coast."

He added, "We hope by budget year 1990-91, to have all Mississippi Baptist Associations on the Remote Call Forwarding."

The local numbers are: Brookhaven, 833-3105, Lincoln; Clarksdale, 624-6868, North Delta/Tallahatchie; Columbia, 731-2886, Lawrence/Marion/Walthall; Columbus, 327-9117, Clay/Lowndes/Oktibbeha; Corinth, 287-3669, Alcorn; Greenville, 334-9104, Washington;

Greenwood, 453-6518, Holmes/Humphrey/LeFlore; Grenada, 226-3950, Grenada; Hattiesburg, 582-9456, Lamar/Lebanon; Laurel, 426-2321, Jones; Louisville, 773-7687, Winston; McComb, 249-2804, Pike; Meridian, 483-7816, Lauderdale/Noxubee; Natchez, 442-4210, Adams/Union; Oxford, 234-0050, LaFayette/Marshall; Philadelphia, 656-5287, Kemper/New Choc/Neshoba; Senatobia, 652-7039, Northwest; Tupelo, 842-6979, Lee; Vicksburg, 636-5381, Warren/Yazoo.

Thursday, April 6, 1989

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

A teacher was sitting at her desk when one of her students came up and stood next to her. The teacher noticed the boy had T.G.I.F. written across the front of his shoes. "Ah, thank goodness it's Friday, huh?" said the teacher, thinking she knew what the initials meant. "No," said the boys, "Toes go in first."

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Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld. The withholding of names will be at the discretion of the editor.

"I am a liberal"

Editor:

I am a Mississippian both by birth and at heart, although I have lived here in Oklahoma over 20 years. I read the Baptist Record regularly and with much appreciation.

In your March 23, 1989, issue an editorial asked, "Who Are The Liberals?" and I would like to respond to that.

I am a true Southern Baptist to the core. I believe in the same plan of salvation as do all Southern Baptists that I know. I believe in an all-powerful triune God, the Trinity, and that the Bible is the inspired Word of God.

Now, after all that as background, I tell you I am a liberal. The strange things about my statement are that I have not changed my beliefs and position (except for normal Christian growth) since I was saved in Florence, Ala., in 1952; and until recent years I was considered a conservative by those who knew me.

The reason I am a liberal? I do not believe each and every phrase or word in the Bible, literally. For example: The Bible says God walked in the garden and asked Adam and Eve, "Where are you?" and "What have you done?" I believe my God knew where they were and what they had done.

Later, God asked Cain, "Where is your brother?" and "What have you done with him?" Again, my God knew exactly what had transpired between Cain and Able. Then, in the New Testament, Jesus asked in the crowd, "Who touched me?" and I believe my Lord knew of the problem and the faith of the woman with the issue.

Since I am such a radical to believe that my God is much greater than my Bible then I must openly admit that I am a liberal... or is it because I fail to blindly follow some opportunistic power grabbers who would have the gall to use God's Holy Word as a tool to confuse our people and to try to take over our denomination and our fine schools to serve their own selfish purposes, and even tell me to agree with them or get out of the Southern Baptist membership so that they would have no opposition?

When things such as these happen, I know Satan is alive and well in the Baptist Church; but my faith tells me, "only for a season."

Bill H. Jobe Sr.
Cushing, Okla.

Christian CB channel

Editor:

I am a truck driver by trade. Everyone knows that truck drivers have developed a system of communication by means of channel 19 on C.B. radio.

Last summer I went with a group of men from my association to Indiana to work on a mission project. In route home we met dozens of vans, buses, etc. of church groups traveling across country headed toward Ridgecrest. Most of them had C.B.s, but we couldn't communicate because we had no uniform system for church groups to use.

May I suggest that we unofficially adopt channel 7 as our channel. If this idea catches on and is passed around, we can have a means of enjoying good Christian fellowship while traveling across country. Maybe we can make new friends by way of radio and occasionally be of some help to fellow church groups or individuals as we travel.

As a truck driver I would enjoy tuning in to 7 and fellowshiping with some brother. I would appreciate your helping spread the word. It will not be long before summer mission trips, retreats, and vacation travel will have a lot of people on the road. We need all the fellowship and communication we can get.

Hurschell Braswell
Winona

Examining ordination

Editor:

The new debate in your pages over the position of a woman in the life of a Baptist church needs very close examination:

(1) The Corinthian injunction of silence on the part of women in the

church has a social and pagan religious setting in Corinth that helps explain the apostle's caution. Pagan rites in Corinth involved not just the speaking of women but their participation in the cultic "worship" through religious prostitution. This called for a strict regulation to avoid any appearance of following the pagan practice.

(2) Moreover, the Ephesian admonition calls for a close examination of the original text. In 5:21 the apostle calls for general submission throughout the church, not unlike his word in 4:2 to humbly and gently forbear one another and in Philippians 2:4 to seek the interests of others ahead of their own interests. Whatever follows is to be understood as an elaboration of the general principle introduced in 4:21. In 4:22 and 4:24 the most reliable manuscripts do not include the verbal form for "submission." Jerome stated that he knew of no such manuscript at or before his time. Only later manuscripts insert the word "submit" for obvious reasons. Translators and interpreters almost universally insert the word "submit" in verse 22 as an imperative and at verse 24 as an obligation. These translators and interpreters were all of the male gender. One exception was Mrs. Montgomery in 1924, who leaves the verbal form out in both verse 22 and 24!

(3) We have just now in Southern Baptist life begun a serious examination of the meaning and purpose of ordination. It has been forced upon us by young women coming forward in greater and greater numbers asking

for the usual confirmation of their calling and ministry by the church, i.e., ordination. It ill becomes us to deny ordination to women ministers until we have done all of our homework on the New Testament position on ordination as conceived by most Baptist members.

Eugene Stockstill
Jackson

The resurrection and the moon

Editor:

My question is, why do we commemorate the resurrection of Christ according to the full of the moon? As I understand it, he was crucified during the season of the Passover and unleavened bread, his resurrection being on the first day of the week. God gives the exact date of the Passover.

Also, why do we have sunrise services? What part did the sun have in the resurrection of Christ?

Maybe someone more spiritually minded than I can answer these questions.

Osie H. Aldridge
Petal



Book reviews

THE MIRTH AND MISERY OF MARRIAGE; Lib Uzzell Griffin; Nashville: Broadman Press, 1988; Hardback, 188 pages.

"Marriages may be made in heaven, but the survival takes place on earth." So begins Lib (Libbylove) Griffin's new book, *The Mirth and Misery of Marriage*. As in her earlier book, *The Pains and Pleasures of Parenthood*, Griffin survives family life with a good sense of humor. As she puts it, "Chief (her husband Kimball) makes the living, and I try to make the living worthwhile" (p. 75).

Lib Griffin is the mother of nine, grandmother of 16, and a columnist for the Durham (N.C.) *Morning Herald*, so she has plenty to write about and plenty of practice. Her wit is evident in this book.

The Mirth and Misery of Marriage is not a psychological or theological analysis of marriage, although Griffin is aware of both of these areas. In fact, it's not even very serious most of the time. Yet as Griffin laughs her way through her experiences in juggling mother and wife roles, surviving 42 years of college tuitions, fanning the flames of romance, getting through mid-life crisis, emptying the nest, and driving her husband crazy, she teaches one fundamental lesson: you can survive marriage if you don't make a big deal out of insignificant issues and you don't take yourself too seriously.

If you can't laugh at yourself or your marriage, don't read this book. — Reviewed by Bob Rogers, pastor, Calvary Church, Gloster

BRISTER, C. W. CARING FOR THE CAREGIVERS; Nashville: Broadman; 1985.

The author is professor of pastoral ministry and chairman of the Ministry Studies Division of Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth.

The author states the purpose of the book is basically "a layperson's book to aid their understanding of servant-leaders who work as ministers and missionaries around the world." The author goes on to state "this volume suggests how you can reinforce your ministers sense of calling and identity, enhance his or her self-esteem, nourish Christian vision, foster feelings of emotional security, assist in periods of distress or crisis, help prevent or resolve interpersonal conflicts, strengthen family ties, and thus undergird God's work."

The message of the book is needed, yet I feel the author gets "bogged down" in ministerial terminology. The book was written for a layperson so he or she can understand how they can "Care for their Caregiver." I believe the author could have done a better job using layman's language. Reviewed by Greg Potts, pastor, Providence Baptist Church, Meadville.

Generosity will always be a more pleasant memory than stinginess.

He who will not understand your silence will probably not understand your words.

WMU film wins award

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — "Go Forward," the first movie produced by the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, won a Silver Angel award at the 12th annual Angel Awards competition Feb. 23 in Beverly Hills, Calif. The competition is sponsored by Religion in Media.

The Angel Award is the movie's first national award. The movie recently won the Paddlewheel of Excellence in the Deep South Video Festival, sponsored by Region Six of the International Television Association.

In the first years of the awards competition, entries came predominantly from the religious sector, Gordon said. This year 70 percent came from the secular field.

This year's sweepstakes award went to "A Cry in the Dark" by Warner Brothers starring Meryl Streep.

"Go Forward" won an award in the national television category. "Go Forward" is based on the life of Annie Armstrong, one of the founders of WMU and the organization's first top executive.

Husband-wife team named Indiana Baptist editors

INDIANAPOLIS (BP) — A husband-wife team from Lancaster, Texas, Gary and Tammi Ledbetter, have been named editors of the *Indiana Baptist*, newsjournal of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, effective April 24.

The Ledbetters replace David Simpson, who resigned as editor of the state Baptist newspaper in early 1988. However, since Simpson's departure, the editorship has been combined with student work because of restructuring of the state executive staff.

Ledbetter will be executive editor and responsible for the state newspaper, as well as student work. Mrs. Ledbetter will be managing editor, and "likely will work a couple of days a week on the paper," Mark Coppenger said.

Ledbetter has been minister of youth at First Baptist Church of Lancaster, Texas. Mrs. Ledbetter, Coppenger said, has been "involved in home schooling" of the couple's

children, Douglas, 6, and Philip, 3.

Ledbetter is a graduate of Criswell College in Dallas, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Prior to going to Lancaster, Ledbetter was minister of youth at Grace Baptist Church in Evansville, Ind.

Mrs. Ledbetter, a journalism graduate of the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, has worked for the Springdale (Ark.) News. She also was editor of *Shophar*, a publication of the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies in Dallas; was associate editor of the *Southern Baptist Advocate*, 1984-86; and director of communications and public relations for the James Robison Evangelistic Association, 1978-81.

Coppenger has been interim editor of the *Indiana Baptist* since he assumed the executive director's post. In that capacity, he hired James C. Hefley of Hannibal, Mo., to write a column for the newspaper at the rate of \$100 per week.

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Family Week at Gulfshore = inspiration, training, fun

Inspiration and training mingled with family fun marks Family Week at Gulfshore July 3-7.

The program will begin at 5:30 supper July 3 and close at noon July 7 with July 5 being a free family day dedicated to family fun. Recreational type activities will be available to those who wish to stay on the assembly campus but only an optional program for grandparents is planned for that day in the evening time.

Thomas Meigs, professor of counseling, Midwestern Seminary, will bring the principal messages on the theme, "Families Practicing God's Love."

G. Ted Taylor, FBC, Starkville, will instruct leaders of Family Ministry programs on the new concept of "Family Enrichment in Your Church." Ron Mumbower of First Church, Jackson, will lead three conferences pertinent to the theme. David Jones of Northminster Church, Jackson,

will speak on, "Gaining Freedom From Addiction," with added help on "Intervention."



Taylor

Meigs



Mumbower

Cottingham

Music and worship will be led by Ronnie Cottingham family of Lucedale, who will bring a patriotic mini-concert on July 4.

Keith Carpenter, Trinity Church, Fulton, will give several dramatic drawing worship features.

The youth, children, and preschoolers will have special activities.

Other regular features of Family Week are a coupletime, afternoons free, watermelon cutting, and cookout. A new feature this year will be, "The Ron and Ronnie Show."

For reservations send \$60 per family unit with names and ages of your children to Frank Simmons, manager, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, MS 39571 or call 452-7261 for special family rates. For more detailed program information, call or write Family Ministry, Baptist Building, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205 or telephone 968-3800.

Summer begins with senior adults

The summer schedule of Gulfshore Baptist Assembly begins with a series of Senior Adult Conferences. The first will be May 15. Three Senior Adult Conferences are planned. One Single Adult Conference will be conducted May 26-28. Eight Youth Conferences are planned from May 29 through July 3. Family and leadership conferences are planned for July and August.

Registrations are being made on a first-come first-served basis. Space is available in many of the conferences, but churches are encouraged to get

their reservations in early to get the accommodations they desire.

Last year 5,768 youths and adults were registered for the summer schedule. The newly-enlarged facilities will accommodate as many as 8,500 youths and adults for this same schedule.

Information for registration and program details may be obtained by writing Frank Simmons, Manager, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, MS 39571. Information concerning adult, youth, and leadership programs may be obtained by writing to the sponsoring

department at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

A new video has been produced by the Gulfshore Promotion Committee entitled "Get In The Picture". The video is designed to help church leaders become aware of the role Gulfshore can play in providing training, inspiration, and fellowship for members and leaders. The video may be obtained by contacting the Broadcast Services Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board or by contacting Keith Wilkinson, chairman of the Gulfshore promotion committee.

SCRAPBOOK

I didn't know

I didn't know as he prayed in the garden,
"Father, it's not My will but Thine,"
that the sorrow that weighed so upon him,
was the sorrow that should have been mine.

I didn't know as the soldiers came forward,
and I heard Jesus say "I am he,"
that the cross today he would carry,
would be carried to Calvary for me.

As he walked up the hill with such burden,
a load too heavy to bear,
every step that he took, every breath that he breathed;
was a name that he breathed in prayer.

As they drove first one nail then the other,
and they hung him on Calvary's tree,
I didn't know that he loved me so greatly,
He'd be willing to do this for me.

I heard him say "Child, I gave all,
the anguish, the torture — such pain,"
then he spoke every name ever written,
as he prayed, "Let it not be in vain."

Then I heard him say "It is finished,
It's for you that I've suffered the shame
My purpose on earth now completed"
then he died softly whispering my name.

—Mary Pittman James Petal

I love April

I love April, the most beautiful month of the year
Nature's green speaks of her energy
and enthusiasm.
Her refreshing rains depict her gentle ways.
Her breast swells with hope
and anticipation of resurrection
with its attendant warmth.
Her sap rises with the excitement of new life.
April's eyes are as blue as the heavens —

Her breath is the fragrance of fruit tree blossoms.
April is as tender as the new buds on her trees.
April is fresh
Young
Vivacious.
April is as beautiful as her spring flowers.
I love April.

—J. Clark Hensley



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Could it be love?

QUESTION:

I met this boy at a ball game. I had seen him already for about two years, but he never noticed me. I was sitting with some friends, and he went and sat near me. I was talking with some other boys, and he started talking with me. He asked me for some yarns I had on my hair, so he could remember me. Afterwards he kissed me. Since then he's been calling me up, and he gave me a necklace. He's told me several times that he's never loved anyone as much as me. I believe him, but my problem is that my parents don't like him. They said that he's too old for me. He's 25 and I am 14. Do you think that he's too old? I really love him.

ANSWER:

Any 14-year-old girl in this

universe who gets involved with a man 11 years older than herself has committed sheer idiocy. There's no other word for it.

Your own romantic fantasy is understandable. But what kind of man 25 years old directs his affection toward a 14-year-old child? Nature has ordained that you are at the beginning of adolescence, and as long as you act it, it is a great age. But you are playing with things a girl 10 years older than you is just barely able to manage.

One of the things we hate to see is a girl of 14 give up a lifetime of good relations with a mother or father for the sake of an early romantic infatuation with a boy. It is swapping much too much for much too little.

The best marriages in America today take place when a girl is about 23 and the boy 26. Ten years ahead of dating a hundred different kinds of boys so that you know something about them and about yourself. You experiment, you change, you succeed, you fail, you meet heartbreak, you have great times — and all the while you are learning, learning, learning. This is the way it ought to be.

Mississippi Baptist activities

- April 10 Sunday School "Start New Units" Conference; 7-9:30 p.m.; FBC, Natchez/FBC Pascagoula/FBC, Oxford (SS)
- April 10 Youth Choir Festival; FBC, Madison; 6:30-9:00 p.m. (CM)
- April 10-11 State Secretaries Conference; Camp Garaywa; 1 p.m., 10th-4 p.m., 11th (CAPM)
- April 11 Sunday School "Start New Units" Conference; 7-9:30 p.m.; FBC, Louisville/Immanuel BC, Cleveland/Immanuel BC, Hattiesburg (SS)
- April 11 Youth Choir Festival; FBC, Laurel; 6:30-9:00 p.m. (CM)
- April 13 Senior Adult Leadership & Enrichment Day; 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; FBC, Yazoo City/Woodland Hills BC, Jackson/Poplar Springs Drive BC, Meridian (Fam. Min.-CT)
- April 13 Youth Choir Festival; FBC, Houston; 6:30-9:00 p.m. (CM)



At the WMU Convention

Marjorie Kelly, seated left, wife of Earl Kelly, executive director, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, talks with Virginia Quarles, seated right, widow of Chester L. Quarles, a former executive director, MBCB. Seated at center is Mrs. Quarles' sister, Mary Lee Newman of First Church, Vicksburg. Mrs. Quarles is a member of First, Clinton, and Mrs. Kelly of First, Jackson. They were attending the state WMU annual meeting at Colonial Hills, Southaven, March 20-21.

Devotional

Your sin will find you out

By John Sharp
Numbers 32:23

Have you ever tried to keep a sin hid? The children of Israel occasionally tried to do so. Moses gave specific instructions to them from the Lord to go and capture the Promised Land. Then Moses said, "But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord: and be sure your sin will find you out."



Sharp

Covering up wrong actions is very much a part of life. About 15 years ago, when my wife and I were living in Florida, I vividly remember having a hunger attack for my favorite food (chocolate ice cream). Having been on a diet for about one week, I knew my wife would fuss if she saw me eating chocolate ice cream. Seeing that she was busy sewing in a back room, I turned up the volume on the television to drown out the noise of the freezer door opening. I grabbed a bowl and filled it with chocolate ice cream.

As the spoon was approaching my mouth, the telephone rang. After I answered, "Hello," a small boy asked me a question I will never forget. He asked, "Is Fat Man there?" As we continued to speak, I realized he had the wrong number, or did he? The thought came to me then, as it has at other times in my life, "Be sure your sin will find you out."

If we do not do very well in hiding our sins from the people around us, what makes us think we can hide them from God? Our only hope for a full and meaningful life as a Christian is to confess our sins daily to God and to "walk in the light, as he (Christ) is in the light" (1 John 1:7).

Sharp is pastor, Sebastopol Church, Sebastopol.

Revival dates

Carmel, Monticello: April 9-14; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. with lunch served at noon; Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Keith Thrash, Meridian, evangelist; Hubert Greer, Brookhaven, music evangelist; Sammy J. McDonald, pastor.

Center Terrace, Canton: April 9-14; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; noon meal in new fellowship building; Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. William Dean, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church, Plainfield, Ill., evangelist; Bill Fancher, minister of music, Center Terrace, music; J. C. Prather, pastor.

Grace, Vicksburg: April 9-13; 7 p.m. each night; Gerald Martin, evangelist, Bill Britton, music, Dixie Henry, pianist, Martin, Britton, and Henry are from Woodlawn, Vicksburg; Ken Pickens, pastor.

Cooperville, (Scott): April 7-9; Chuck Moody, First, Morton, evangelist; Virginia Huffman, minister of music, Cooperville; services, Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.; LaVerne Summerlin, pastor.

Woodville Heights, Jackson: April 9-14; Sunday services, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; 7 p.m., Sun.-Fri.; Jim Bain, evangelist; Bernie Parker, musician; Hueston Adkins, pastor.

Swiftwater, Greenville: April 9-14; John Tucker, Alexander Memorial, James Crossing, evangelist; Dan Robertson, West Heights, Pontotoc, music; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., noon and 7:30 p.m.; Alva Ray McCorkle, pastor.

First, Coffeeville: April 9-14. Johnny H. Collins, pastor, Calvary, Vicksburg, evangelist; John Yates, interim minister of music, Crossgates, Brandon, musician; services, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Sunday; noon and 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; Truman D. Scarborough, pastor.

First, Runnelstown: April 9-14; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Dwight Smith, West Ellisville, Ellisville, guest speaker; Acker Smith, music director, Oral, Hattiesburg, music; Henry Freeman, pastor.

Raymond Road Church, Jackson: lay renewal weekend, April 14, 15, 16; call church office at 372-6154 for details.

First Church, Lucedale: April 9-12; John Wilton, preaching; David Larimore, formerly of Lucedale, directing music; Johnny Walker, psator.

Revival materials available in six languages

OKLAHOMA CITY (BP) — Materials to help pastors prepare for 1990 "Here's Hope" simultaneous revivals are now available in six languages from the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The diversity of free materials was announced during the annual language church extension conference here. Nationwide revivals are scheduled for March 18 through April 29, 1990.

Thad Hamilton, associate director of the HMB's mass evangelism department, said revival aids have been prepared in Spanish, Korean, French/Haitian, Vietnamese, and basic English.

The materials will be mailed to the

denomination's 4,600 ethnic congregations in mid-April, he said.

This year's free materials include a pastor's awareness guide, evangelistic people search booklet and information on how to prepare for a revival, he said. Additional ethnic materials available for a small fee include booklets on presenting evangelistic invitations, how to prepare spiritually for revival, and the plan of salvation.

New Testaments are also available in the six basic languages as well as in Chinese and Polish. Gospels of John are being produced in Arabic, Cambodian, Japanese, Vietnamese, Laotian, Tagalog, Romanian, and German.

Revival results

Zion Hill, Wesson: Mar. 5-10; Jackie Cooke, pastor, North Columbia, Columbia, evangelist; 13 saved, five by letter, and one surrendered to preach; J. Frank Smith, pastor.

First, Lauderdale: March 12-15; Danny Lanier, evangelist; Myron Burris, music; 12 professions of faith, four rededications; Mike Russell, pastor.

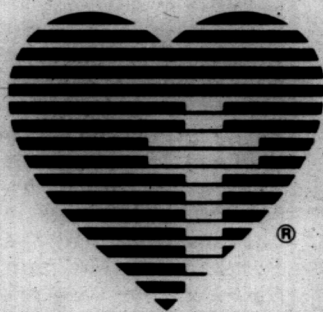
Any recipe for success includes the ability to follow instructions.

Some folks think the statement, "It is more blessed to give than to receive," has reference only to gossip.

The great use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it.

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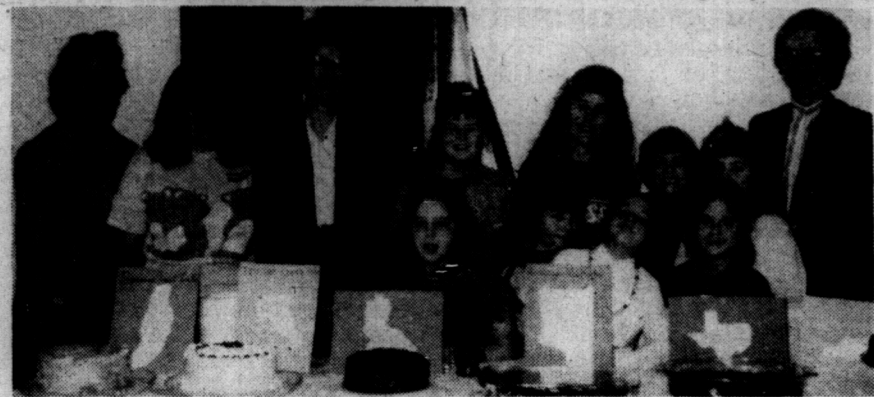
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Prospect Discover | <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Evangelism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Witnessing Women | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer & Evangelism |

Just for the Record

Thursday, April 6, 1989

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

The quarterly meeting of Lincoln County Baptist Men will take place April 10 at 7 p.m. at Mt. Moriah Church. David Peavey is president.



Goodwater Church, Magee, GAs, during WMU Focus Week, put on a skit, "Under the Umbrella."

In a church-wide fellowship, each organization of WMU displayed mission work in various parts of the world. Cakes served were patterned after countries represented, such as German Chocolate, Japanese Fruit Cake, Italian Cream, Texas Pound, Mississippi Mud, and Kentucky Sheet Cake. They represented home, as well as foreign missions. Information about the countries was displayed with the cakes.

GA's decorated the punch table to represent Hawaii, a recent subject of study for the GA's, and they served the punch.

A centennial WMU quilt, made by the WMU, was presented to the WMU director, Mrs. Pat Surber, in appreciation for her leadership.



First, Lambert conducted an RA recognition service recently, led by Jonathan Dancy and Charlie Cobb, R.A. leaders, and J. Courtney Selvy, pastor. Pictured after receiving the first badge are, front row: Alan Inman and Justin Selvy; second row: Charlie Cobb, John Ruth, and Shane Mitchell; third row: Wash Respess, Lauren Dancy, and Jonathan Dancy. Joey Horne and Sonny Horne have also earned the first badge. The group's latest mission project is collecting aluminum pop tops to help a local girl receive kidney dialysis.



New Prospect Church (Tishomingo) celebrated on Feb. 19 the burning of the note for the 1985 expenses in building a new fellowship hall, five classrooms, two restrooms, and remodeling part of the older building. On Jan. 29, about \$8,000 was collected as the final pay-off for the \$60,000 project. Pictured are the deacons; building committee, 1985 pastor, and present supply preacher, (left to right), Danny Davis, Ronny Stricklen, Cecil Monroe, Richard Ortnier, W. E. Walden, Ronnie Gamble, G. D. Jones, Dot Hannon, Wallace Anglin, and Olen Nunley.

Staff changes

Gene Douglas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Gene Douglas of New Hebron, is the new pastor of Union South Church in Seminary. He recently graduated from New Orleans Seminary with an associate of divinity degree in pastoral ministry. He will be attending William Carey College this fall. Douglas is the former pastor of Palestine Church in Simpson Association.

Marlon Seaneey has resigned Red Lick Church, Lorman, where he served for four years. He is available for supply, revivals, and/or pastorate. He is a graduate of Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary. Seaneey can be contacted at 103 Skylane Drive, Pearl, MS 39208, or phone 939-0684.

First Church, Brandon, will participate in a Lay Renewal Weekend, April 7-9. Visiting team members from Louisiana, Florida, and Mississippi will lead in worship services, prayer coffees, and various share groups. Activities will be provided for all ages beginning at 6:30 on Friday evening.

A Bible Preaching Conference will be held at White Oak Church in Neshoba County, April 7, at 7 p.m., and April 8, at 5 p.m. Greg Renfrow is pastor. Different preachers will be called on to preach.

J. Clark Hensley will lecture in ethics classes at Southwestern Seminary, April 6-7 and at Camp Copass in Denton, Tex. Hensley is retired executive director of the Mississippi Christian Action Commission.

The Baptist Student Union of the University of Southern Mississippi will sponsor a concert by the Imperials, a contemporary Christian music group. The concert will be in the Reed Green Coliseum on campus, April 7, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale at bookstores in Meridian, Jackson, Laurel, the Coast, Brookhaven, McComb, and Hattiesburg. For information, phone 264-5160.

Mrs. Conniff dies

Mrs. Mildred Conniff, 73, of 208 Holly Hill Drive, Jackson, died of kidney failure March 30 at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. She was the wife of Dennis Conniff, retired employee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Services were held April 1 at Wright & Ferguson Funeral home with burial in Cedar Hill Cemetery in Bessemer, Ala.

Mrs. Conniff, a Bessemer native, had lived in Jackson since 1963. She was a member of First Baptist Church, where she taught Sunday school. She also attended Alabama College for Women and was a special preschool worker for Southern Baptist churches in Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, and Florida.

Survivors include: husband, Dennis; sons, Dennis E. Conniff III of Nashville and Charles E. Conniff of Jonesboro, Ga.; one brother; three sisters; and five grandchildren.

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Single meet is set for Memorial Day

RIDGECREST, N.C. — The Memorial Day Successful Single Living Conference, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department, will be held May 26-29. Ron Mumbower, minister of counseling at First Baptist Church of Jackson, Miss., is among conference leaders.



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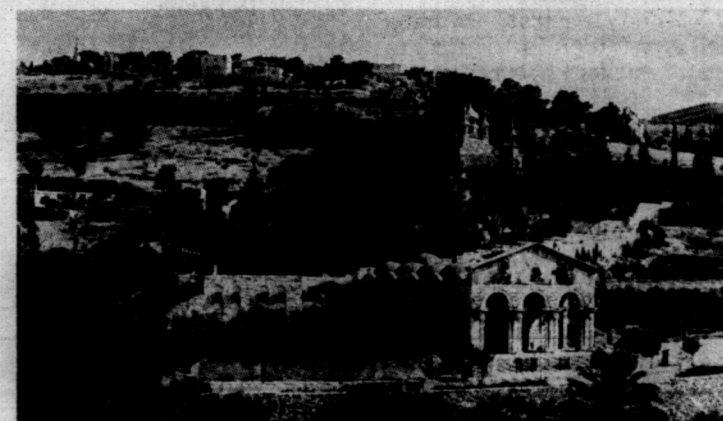
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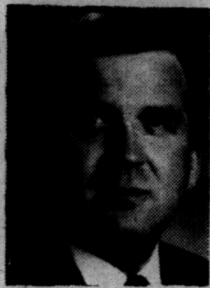
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Believers: serving as Christ served

By Gary G. Berry
Philippians 1:27-2:11

If the local church would present a clear and consistent witness to its world, more towns and communities could be reached for Christ. In this passage, Paul emphasizes the proper way to provide a witness to others by serving them.



Berry

In 1:27-28, the Philippian Christians were exhorted to work together in unity to share the gospel. His appeal in 1:27 needs to be heard clearly by every believer in every place. He urges these Philippian believers to conduct themselves as Christians in "whatever happens." Even in recent days, one may recall seeing so-called leaders failing to be Christian persons. This writer has witnessed emotional outbursts of rage by church leaders during times of worship or Bible study. One can only pray that a non-believer will never witness such obscenities.

The Philippians were encouraged to strive together for the gospel. Much of the striving

UNIFORM

within the Christian family today is directed against some group or against some idea. If the people of God were on the offensive in every place, preaching and sharing the gospel, striving together for the faith of the gospel, there would be little need or time for being defensive. Every body of believers probably has at least one person who is better known for what he opposes than for what he does to spread the gospel. Any striving done in the family of faith should be for the purpose of advancing the gospel and not for the preservation of personal opinions.

Many of the Philippians were faithful witnesses whose lives matched their profession. They were attacked by others as a result (1:28). Yet, the adversaries were unable to intimidate the believers. The faithful witnesses were fearless. Their fearlessness in the face of personal attack was "a clear sign," or proof, that they were walking in obedience to God.

This was not to say that the believers did not suffer at the hands of Satan's troops. Their suf-

fering, caused by their adversaries, was in behalf of Christ. They suffered for the interests of Christ and the gospel. Paul reminded them that such suffering was a privilege.

One may consider several possibilities which may occur as a result of suffering that is in behalf of Jesus and his purposes. First, such suffering may enable one to identify with or appreciate more fully the suffering of Christ for men. One may experience a powerful affirmation of his salvation as God brings assurance to his heart. Christian suffering may be a way of providing a powerful witness to unbelievers. There is no doubt that as one suffers for Christ with the spirit of Christ, he frustrates the plans of Satan and gives glory to God. Finally, such suffering shall be rewarded in heaven.

In 2:1-3, Paul again appeals to the church at Philippi. The danger which threatened that church, and many churches today, was disunity. Specifically, believers were apparently attacking and belittling each other. That is a sorry spectacle in any age.

If those who are the body of Christ would follow the instructions in 1:2-11, disunity in the church would disappear quickly. Unity in the body is developed by oneness of aim, attitude, and love. Oneness is impossible without

lowliness, or humility. When one thinks only of himself, his ideas, his prejudices, how can unity ever come? To the shame of Christ, there exists too often an "unholy" unity, where people join hearts to oppose the very things upon which the heart of Christ is set to accomplish.

This oneness of purpose and spirit cannot be achieved where there is a desire for personal prestige or recognition, where men speak more of what they want than of what God wants. Submission is the key to a dynamic spirit in the body of Christ. Submission to one another cannot be imitated successfully for long periods. Without question, however, submission is always born where grace reigns.

In 2:6-8, Paul deals with the humiliation of Christ for the purpose of dying for men. Thus, Jesus becomes the perfect illustration of humility. Not grasping his equality with God, he made himself of no reputation and voluntarily became obedient as a servant, and died for men. What would happen if the humility of Jesus became evident in the lives of believers? What would happen if a non-believing and lost world looked to Christians and saw the likeness of Christ, instead of the reign of pride and ego? The result could be interesting.

Berry is pastor, First, McComb.

The gospel spreads despite opposition

By Bert Breland
Acts 13:49 to 14:28

Paul and Barnabas had received a warm welcome at the synagogues in Antioch to begin with but the tides had turned due to the jealousy of some of the Jews. This



Breland

jealousy and ill will had been caused by the fact that the whole city was turning out to hear Paul preach. This meant that Gentiles were included and it was no longer exclusively Jewish. The Jewish leaders who were opposed to the Gentiles being included began to stir the people up and turn them against Paul and Barnabas.

Apparently they were successful because they were able to drive them out of the district. As Paul and Barnabas were leaving they shook the dust off their feet. This was an insult to the Jews of the region because this was something Jews did after they had walked across Gentile land, in order to prevent contamination.

The passage concerning their expulsion from

BIBLE BOOK

the district ends with an unusual comment by Luke that the "disciples were filled with joy." Obviously this wouldn't have been a very happy time for Paul and Barnabas or for the disciples in that region; yet Luke remarks that they were full of joy. I think that a distinction can be made here between happiness which is circumstantial and true joy which is a choice. Happiness is dependent on what's happening around us, but joy is an attitude, a posture, a commitment to Christ about the way we will live. Joy is dependent upon his presence and not our circumstances.

When Paul left Pisidian Antioch he and Barnabas journeyed to Iconium. They began their ministry in the synagogue. Luke records that both Jews and Greeks believed their message. The Greeks here would be Gentiles who were God-fearers. The Jews who had not believed the gospel got angry and worked to turn the Gentile God-fearers against Paul and Barnabas. Here again the Jews' opposition to Paul and his

message didn't seem to center around his preaching that Jesus is the Christ but rather it involved his ready acceptance of Gentiles. We could speculate that these Jews had been working hard on these prospects, trying to get them to convert to Judaism, and Paul came along and told them that they didn't have to become Jews in order to become God's children. This was good news for the Gentiles, but it made the Jews furious.

When the Jewish leaders had no real reason to have Paul and Barnabas expelled from the city, they resorted to mob violence. This got the attention of the city officials, and they wanted Paul and Barnabas to leave in order to keep the peace. This tactic temporarily stopped their preaching, but it did not stop the spread of the gospel. Paul and Barnabas left and went immediately to Lystra.

Lystra was a city that was dominated by pagan culture and religion. The cult of Zeus was prevalent among the people, and there was no mention of a Jewish synagogue. Paul began his ministry there by healing a crippled man. This led the superstitious pagans to conclude that Paul and Barnabas must be gods. This was quite a different problem from what they had

encountered at Antioch or Iconium. In the previous cities, Paul had dealt with people who knew the true God, but who were arrogant about their relationship with him. In Lystra, the people were in a deep darkness of ignorance, but they had a desire to do the right thing, however misguided they might be.

If things weren't difficult enough for Paul in Lystra, trying to deal with these pagans, he had to deal with the fact that the Jews had followed him from Antioch and Iconium.

Paul's Jewish enemies were certainly persistent. They were also successful in turning the people of Lystra against Paul. They had him stoned and left for dead outside the city.

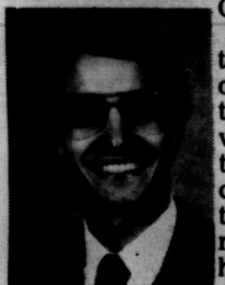
Everyone knows that Paul wasn't dead and he soon revived and went on his way preaching. The real miracle in this story is not that he survived the stoning but that he continued to preach the good news. Further, it was quite courageous on the part of Paul that he returned to the cities where he had so much trouble. Why did he go? Because he had a commitment to preach the gospel and strengthen disciples, regardless of the opposition.

Breland is pastor, North Greenwood Church, Greenwood.

"Trust and obey, for there's no other way . . ."

By Greg Martin
Joshua 3:5-6, 9-10, 15-17

How does a person please God? Have you ever thought about that question? Some say, "It is impossible for sinful man to please a holy God."



Martin

Hebrews 11:6 reminds us that faith in the Lord is the only way to please him. That text reads like this, "and without faith it is impossible to please him, for he who comes to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those who seek him." As believers in Christ, we are to trust daily in the Lord. When we trust in him

we can find the power of God to enable us to accomplish his purposes.

Trust in God's power is what the Israelites learned at the crossing of the Jordan River. As they stood on the east bank of the river, a new day was dawning. The children of Israel had wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Those days and nights were characterized by defeat, murmuring, disobedience, and death. Joshua in general, and chapter 3 in particular, is a story of victory for God's people. The time had come for trusting in the Lord to accomplish his purposes.

Before this historic crossing of the Jordan in-

LIFE AND WORK

to the promised land, there needed to be a period of spiritual renewal. Joshua told the people to prepare themselves by being consecrated to the Lord (verse 5). This meant for the people of God to put behind them all the sins of the wilderness wanderings. It meant to obey God's word. As the Israelites were not ready to experience God's power apart from spiritual renewal, neither is the church of Jesus Christ. Believers are to anticipate and prepare themselves for the experience of God's power by separating themselves unto the Lord. Why should we ever expect God's manifested power in our lives if we are unwilling to forsake all known sin?

After the period of consecration, God's presence was to be the center of attention. The ark, which was the visible symbol of God's invisible presence, was to be carried into the middle of the river bed. As the people crossed the river, they were to keep a 3,000 foot distance between them and the ark. This was so all would be reminded that it was God's presence that had brought them out of the land of despair and into the land of conquest. Verse 6 is a reminder to Christian people that God's presence will

always go before us when we willingly obey. Jesus promised never to forsake us (Hebrews 13:5) and to always abide with us (Matthew 28:20).

Verses 9-10 teach us that God's unusual demonstrations of power indicated that he is present among his people. He is referred to as the "living God." Only a living God could cause a supernatural miracle like the parting of the Jordan River. This of course was no problem for God since he parted the Red Sea for Moses (Exodus 14) and was the creator of every water molecule. I wonder if God can be described as "living" in our churches and lives? If not, we can be assured the problem is not with him. If not, we can be assured that troubled waters will always keep us from the victory land God wants us to enjoy. Trusting God will be more palatable when we view him as the "living God."

Verse 17 indicated that trust in God's power is vindicated by obedience. The children of Israel were obedient to cross the river as God miraculously held back the northern stream. James 2 says much about a believer verifying his faith by works which is obedience to God's word. As believers exhibit trust in God by obeying him, they can be assured that God will act to enable them to accomplish his purposes.

The keys to seeing God's activity in our lives are spiritual renewal, trust, and obedience. Are these keys toys to rattle or tools that open doors to discover how powerful our God really is?

"Trust and obey, for there's no other way, to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey."

Martin is pastor, Commission Road, Long Beach.

Off the Record

An Eskimo won a trip to New York City as a prize for catching the most fish in one season. When he returned home, he brought with him a length of pipe, which he set up in his igloo so it poked through the roof.

"What's that for?" inquired his wife. "It's a trick I learned in New York," the Eskimo replied. "When you want more heat, you bang on the pipe."



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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

Jan. 16, 1989 -

Mar. 9, 1989

MEMORIALS

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Chris Newman

Mr. Horace K. Ables

Mr. & Mrs. Roy Cliburn & Melodi

Rev. & Mrs. James C. Carr

Bernard & Lola Flowers

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Stanton Baptist Church

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Adult Couples Sunday School,

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Mary P. Powell Sunday School, FBC Marks

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Mrs. Annie Barkley

Mr. & Mrs. Terry Champion & Wendy

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Houston B. Barnett

Mr. & Mrs. Clarence B. Minyard

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Marcia & Truett Smith

Mrs. Marjorie Stamps

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Mr. & Mrs. James A. Hathorn

Gladys Slayden

Mr. J. A. Bethune

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Bay Vista BC, Biloxi

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Mrs. Gina Bookout

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Infant Staley Ann Boyd

Mr. & Mrs. William D. Mann

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Clifton Boyette, Jr.

Mr. & Mrs. H. E. Dawkins

Arthur Leon Boyte, Jr.

Bobby Joe

Mr. & Mrs. Bill C. Walker

Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Walker

Mrs. Mary Lee Lowry

Mr. & Mrs. Henry Pollan,

Jessica & Jarett

Ms. Eloyce C. Hollinger

Mr. & Mrs. Greg Farr

Mr. & Mrs. Billy R. Havard

Ginny Randall

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Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Bigham Jr.

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Miss Lillian Breland

Mr. & Mrs. Edwin G. Evans

Sr.

Mr. John F. Bridges

Mrs. R. C. Bryan

Mrs. Bessie S. Bridges

Hopewell Baptist Church

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Mrs. Cline Bridges

Mr. & Mrs. Billy French

Mrs. Sue Bridges

Mrs. Clayton E. Bain

Mrs. Dollie McGaughy

Ray Bridges

Miss Juanita Chandler

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Mrs. Marian Dreher

Mr. Cade Britt

Mrs. Margaret S. Tomlinson

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Mrs. H. E. Brooks, Sr.

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Mr. & Mrs. Billy J. Binegar

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Mrs. Mildred Stamps

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Leake

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Ms. Dorris Morgan

Ann Scribner

Al Burger

Mrs. Barbara Carpenter

Mrs. Chrystal Burkett

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Leake

The Baptist Children's Village

URGENTLY

NEEDS YOUR HELP

OUR EASTER REQUIREMENT WAS

\$145,000.00

Gifts Through March 22, 1989 Are

\$82,090.19

WHY PEOPLE GIVE

60% give to help

23% give for religious reasons

9% give because asked

2% give because of tax benefits

6% give but list no reason why

As a concerned Christian Baptist surely your motivation for giving will include the desire that The Village meet her financial obligations.

capsules

Hawaii picks Efurd

HONOLULU (BP) — O.W. (Dub) Efurd has been elected executive director-treasurer of the Hawaii Baptist Convention.

Efurd was elected unanimously by the HBC executive board in a called meeting March 9. His tenure will begin April 1.

A missionary with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's metropolitan missions department, Efurd has been director of missions for the Central Leeward, Honolulu and Windward Baptist associations on the island of Oahu since 1986.

A native of Fort Smith, Ark., he is a graduate of Oklahoma State University in Stillwater and Southwestern Seminary.

Efurd succeeds Dan H. Kong, who resigned to become president of Hawaii Baptist Academy.

Government clears seminary site

TAEJON, South Korea (BP) — Korean government leaders have cleared the way for relocating the Korea Baptist Theological College and Seminary in Taejon to a larger campus 10 miles away, a move that eventually could double the student population.

The Baptist institution already is among the world's largest seminaries. Within 10 years, the new campus will be able to accommodate 3,000 students, compared to the 1,500 who now study in cramped facilities on a 15-acre site.

Samford study: law and the church

BIRMINGHAM — Samford University's Center for the Study of Law and the Church will hold its third annual conference April 17-18. The theme will be "Basic Legal Aspects of Sound Church Administration."

Topics include copyright law, tax issues, insurance, church litigation and prevention, overall church administration, and clergy confidentiality.

For more information, contact Chriss Doss, director, Center for the Study of Law and the Church, Samford University, Birmingham, AL 35229. The telephone number is 205/870-2700.

Exemption struck

WASHINGTON (BP) — A Texas statute that exempted only religious books and periodicals from state sales tax violated the Constitution's establishment clause, according to a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court.

The high court reversed a Texas appeals court decision that upheld the law as constitutional.

The statute, which was in effect from October 1984 through October 1987, exempted from sales and use taxes "periodicals that are published or distributed by a religious faith and that consist wholly of writings promulgating the teachings of the faith and books that consist wholly of writings sacred to a religious faith."

In 1985, the publisher of Texas Monthly, a magazine that did not qualify for the exemption, paid its sales taxes

under protest and sued to recover those payments in state court.

A Texas district court found the exemption unconstitutional and ordered the state to refund the amount of tax Texas Monthly had paid, plus interest. But a state appeals court reversed the decision.

Churches start 953 missions

Southern Baptists started 953 church-type missions nationwide in 1988, according to figures reported to the convention's Home Mission Board by state church extension leaders.

State directors of missions and church extension from across the nation gathered in Oklahoma City for the HMB's annual new church extension conference. In addition to reporting last year's statistics, state leaders announced a combined goal of 1,600 mission starts for 1989.

Nationally, the ratio of churches to new starts in 1988 was 38-to-1, meaning Southern Baptists started one mission for every 38 constituted churches. Mississippi reported seven church starts at a ratio of 278 to 1.

Converts jailed

KATMANDU, Nepal (EP) — Three Hindu people have been sentenced to a year in prison after being tried and found guilty of converting to Christianity, a criminal offense in Nepal, the world's only Hindu kingdom. Nepalese law bans conversions from Hinduism to any other religion. Christian organizations in the area claim about 200 Nepalese are awaiting trial on similar charges.

Bangkok concerts produce decisions

BANGKOK, Thailand — Thirty-nine people decided to become Christians and more than 200 said they wanted to know more about Christianity after three concerts in Bangkok, Thailand.

The concerts of contemporary Christian music — held at the city's leading university, a large church and the Baptist Student Center — were followed by concise messages about the Christian life.

Decision cards indicate 68 people asked to enroll in correspondence studies and 111 asked for a book on Christianity.

Crusades reach all ages

SINGAPORE — About 30 parents of Baptist young adults accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior during a recent evangelistic crusade in Singapore. Ninety people became Christians during the five-night crusade. The new believers ranged in age from 9 to 85.

Baptists are working to reach the 850,000 people in Singapore who speak Mandarin or other dialects.

High leaves Recorder

RALEIGH, N.C. (BP) — Lawrence E. (Larry) High, managing editor of the Biblical Recorder, newsjournal of North Carolina Baptists, since 1982, has resigned effective April 15.

High, 38, has accepted a position with a Raleigh, N.C., firm for landscape design and implementation.

"Students have become more open"

Things may not be run in quite the same way, but the Baptist Student Union is as important to the Pearl River Community College campus today as when it first began back when PRC was an agricultural high school offering college credit courses.

Students have changed since Bill Kirkpatrick, the current BSU director, arrived at PRC as the union's fulltime director employed by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in 1979.

"Students have become more open," Kirkpatrick said. He said when he first arrived at PRC, students were mainly concerned with dating and some alcohol related issues. Now, he said, they come to him with problems ranging from suicide to broken homes.

"The divorce rate in our country has affected college students too," he said, "although they handle it better emotionally than younger groups."

For those who get involved in BSU activities, he has also noticed a deep concern with religious issues and for fellow students.

The BSU's mission remains unchanged, however, Kirkpatrick said. It serves as a bridge between childhood home life and the adult world.

The BSU is one of the organizations that provides the other side to classroom learning. "There's got to be another side to the academic," he said. "We live in a highly technical society which has a tendency to leave out man's inner being."

"We are not the church on campus," he said. "I think that's one of the big misconceptions."

He said while the organization is called the Baptist Student Union, it

represents a number of religious groups.

Michael Knippers, a speech instructor at PRC who served as a part-time BSU director from 1968-69, said the BSU has always tried to offer students the opportunity to develop leadership skills and to give them a positive alternative for social activities.

"These young people were away from home and they needed Christian friends," he said. "They needed things to do in a positive way."

Knippers, who gave up his BSU duties to become a pastor at a church in Sandy Hook, said that during his time with the group they would hold cookouts, swimming parties, and retreats. They also hosted summer leadership training conferences, and during one conference PRC won the men's and women's state BSU basketball tournament.

E. Layne Trickey Seal said the BSU held similar events when she served as BSU secretary during the 1951-52 school year.



These are the people who have directed the Baptist Student Union program at Pearl River Community College. From left, they are Mike Knippers, E. Layne Seal, Murphy McBride, and Bill Kirkpatrick who is current BSU director.

Pirates manager serves God

By Lori Zonner

PITTSBURGH (BP) — Larry Doughty serves God at his church and on the baseball field.

As general manager and senior vice president of the Pittsburgh Pirates, Doughty comes into contact with many players and has opportunities to tell about his faith in Christ.

He often is on the road 200 days a year and usually works 16-hour days during the baseball season. But he is active at Pittsburgh Baptist Church, where he is a substitute Sunday School teacher.

"There's an opportunity during practice sessions to visit and talk to players on the ballfield and in the clubhouse," Doughty said. "On several occasions, players have questioned me philosophically and so forth regarding a religion or a right-standing with the Lord."

"I really think that in some cases, I've seen careers saved for players" because they became Christians.

As general manager, a position he has held since November 1988, Doughty manages the major league team, works with the club's seven minor league teams and scouts for new recruits.

He has been involved with professional baseball since 1972, when he started as a scouting supervisor with the Cincinnati Reds. He first joined the Pirates in October 1987 as assistant to the general manager.

While Doughty shares Christ with others on the job, he said his greatest opportunity for witnessing is teaching Sunday School and serving as a deacon.

Although being active in his church

is important to Doughty, many times during the season he is on the road. Then he goes to church in the city closest to the game or attends baseball chapel.

"Baseball chapel takes place every Sunday in virtually every professional baseball park," he said. "The local area brings in people to perform chapel. The players usually are in uniform and have begun preparing for the game." About 40 percent of the major league players take part in the chapels, he said.

Doughty grew up in a Christian home in Bowling Green, Ky. "I knew for quite some time I loved the Lord and the Lord loved me," he said. He was 9 years old when he made a profession of faith in Christ.

"I really rely heavily on the Holy Spirit to help me," he said of his job. "I take literally and feel the Holy Spirit will enlighten me to the point I need to be enlightened at that time to carry on."

"A lot of times in the stresses of the day, whether it be negotiating with agents or whatever it might be, I dial God's phone number," he said.

Doughty is down to earth about his major league title, even though he is one of only 26 general managers in the majors.

"After you get to know people, their interpretation of you and their perception of you is what you are to them," he said, adding this is not based on a public image or a title.

Doughty's pastor at Pittsburgh Baptist Church, Danny Crow, said Doughty proves that in a very select field, "People can be people."

Seal, who came to PRC from the Women's Mission Training School in Louisville, Kentucky, saw Poplarville as "a storybook place . . . a beautiful town and beautiful people."

At that time the BSU was housed in an office in the old high school building, and she said the organization hosted parties, Sunday suppers, noonday prayer meetings, and had a choir.

Seal, who resigned her post when she married Enoch Seal, recently retired PRC academic dean, whom she met at the year's first faculty meeting, said the prayer meetings were one of the biggest spiritual projects.

A. M. McBride, who served as faculty advisor for the BSU off and on from 1957 to 1969, said, "I think if (the BSU) is one of the most important things we have on the campus. I believe in the things the BSU has been sponsoring all this time."

From River Side, a PRCC alumni publication.

Baptist Record

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901 COMMERCE ST SUITE 401
NASHVILLE TN 37203

April 6, 1989

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205